

From: [Mason, Steve](#)
To: [Gray, David](#); [McQuiddy, David](#)
Cc: [Coleman, Sam](#); [Edlund, Carl](#); [Phillips, Pam](#); [Petersen, Chris](#); [Smith, Monica](#); [Broyles, Ragan](#); [Ruhl, Christopher](#); [Webster, Susan](#)
Subject: RE: Draft OMB Questions - Revised Response
Date: Thursday, April 18, 2013 5:24:36 PM

I would re-word the statement: "The City of Waco, McLennan County, and surrounding cities are a LEPC" to "McLennan County has maintained an active LEPC, which includes Waco and all other communities within the county."

From: Gray, David
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2013 5:14 PM
To: McQuiddy, David
Cc: Coleman, Sam; Edlund, Carl; Phillips, Pam; Mason, Steve; Petersen, Chris; Smith, Monica; Broyles, Ragan; Ruhl, Christopher; Webster, Susan
Subject: Re: Draft OMB Questions - Revised Response

[I have changes](#)

From: McQuiddy, David
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2013 5:07:06 PM
To: Gray, David
Cc: Coleman, Sam; Edlund, Carl; Phillips, Pam; Mason, Steve; Petersen, Chris; Smith, Monica; Broyles, Ragan; Ruhl, Christopher; Webster, Susan
Subject: RE: Draft OMB Questions - Revised Response

David,

Yes sir, we were asked by OEM to only comment on the two questions originally forwarded, however we wanted to correct OEM answers on some of the other questions.

The following has been coordinated through Sam as of a few minutes ago . . .

- Was this plant an RMP facility?
 - Yes, there was an RMP on file for this facility. Plan was updated in 2011. Next update due in 2016.
- If so, did it fall under the high-risk category?
 - Per internal EPA definition, it is not a high risk facility as defined by quantity and history of releases. However, as a Program Level II RMP facility it poses a threat to the surrounding community.
- When was the last time that EPA inspected the facility?
 - EPA inspected the facility in 2006.
- Does EPA have a role in assisting the local community with the response?
 - Yes. EPA works closely with the State in response activities.

If so, please describe the activities that EPA is undertaking?

- Multiple emergency response agencies are engaged in fire-fighting and public safety activities.
 - Region 6 has deployed 2 OSCs, 8 contractors and the mobile command post to the site. Additional OSCs and contractors are on standby.
 - Air monitoring will be conducted.
 - The OSCs will coordinate with TCEQ and multiple state and local partners on the response.
- Has EPA issued any public guidance on evacuations, etc. in response to the blast?
 - No. Local authorities determine scope and length of evacuations. The State of Texas is overseeing the response and has not requested DHS FEMA assistance. EPA is assisting TCEQ with air monitoring of the area. TCEQ and TDH is interpreting information in support of the state-lead response.
 - Is the local community responding under a contingency plan that EPA helped develop?
 - It is unknown to EPA if the small community of West, Texas, has an independent contingency plan. The City of Waco, McLennan County, and surrounding cities are a LEPC who have a contingency plan that EPA has provide training and assistance with historically. The McLennan County Office of Emergency Management is responsible for developing and maintaining the McLennan County Emergency Operations Plan.
 - What are the chemicals of concern that may have been released?
 - Anhydrous ammonia
 - Ammonium nitrate
 - What are the next steps in determining the cause of the fire and explosion?
 - The cause of the explosion is still under investigation.

Wes McQuiddy
Chief, Emergency Readiness Section
U.S. EPA Region 6 (6SF-PE)
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
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214-665-6722

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From: Gray, David
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2013 4:57 PM
To: McQuiddy, David; Coleman, Sam
Cc: Edlund, Carl; Phillips, Pam; Mason, Steve; Petersen, Chris; Smith, Monica; Broyles, Ragan; Ruhl, Christopher; Webster, Susan

Subject: Re: Draft OMB Questions - Revised Response

Wow! A lot more questions - I thought we had two.

David

From: McQuiddy, David

Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2013 4:54:52 PM

To: Gray, David; Coleman, Sam

Cc: Edlund, Carl; Phillips, Pam; Mason, Steve; Petersen, Chris; Smith, Monica; Broyles, Ragan; Ruhl, Christopher; Webster, Susan

Subject: RE: Draft OMB Questions - Revised Response

David & Sam,

Here is the proposed / revised response to the subject OMB questions, incorporating your comments;

- Was this plant an RMP facility?
 - Yes, there was an RMP on file for this facility. Plan was updated in 2011. Next update due in 2016.
- If so, did it fall under the high-risk category?
 - Per internal EPA definition, it is not a high risk facility as defined by quantity and history of releases. However, as a Program Level II RMP facility it poses a threat to the surrounding community.
- When was the last time that EPA inspected the facility?
 - EPA inspected the facility in 2006.
 - The facility was inspected by a third party in June 2011
- Does EPA have a role in assisting the local community with the response?
 - Yes. EPA works closely with the State in response activities.
- If so, please describe the activities that EPA is undertaking?
 - Multiple emergency response agencies are engaged in fire-fighting and public safety activities.
 - Region 6 has deployed OSCs, 8 contractors and the mobile command post to the site. Additional OSCs and contractors are on standby.
 - Air monitoring will be conducted.
 - The OSCs will coordinate with TCEQ and multiple state and local partners on the response.
- Has EPA issued any public guidance on evacuations, etc. in response to the blast?
 - No. Local authorities determine scope and length of evacuations. The State of Texas is overseeing the response and has not requested DHS FEMA assistance. EPA is assisting TCEQ with air monitoring of the area. TCEQ and TDH is interpreting

information in support of the state-lead response.

- Is the local community responding under a contingency plan that EPA helped develop?
 - It is unknown to EPA if the small community of West, Texas, has an independent contingency plan. The City of Waco, McLennan County, and surrounding cities are a LEPC who have a contingency plan that EPA has provide training and assistance with historically. The McLennan County Office of Emergency Management is responsible for developing and maintaining the McLennan County Emergency Operations Plan.
- What are the chemicals of concern that may have been released?
 - Anhydrous ammonia
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- What are the next steps in determining the cause of the fire and explosion?
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Wes McQuiddy
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From: Gray, David
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2013 4:03 PM
To: McQuiddy, David
Cc: Edlund, Carl; Phillips, Pam; Mason, Steve; Petersen, Chris; Smith, Monica; Broyles, Ragan; Ruhl, Christopher; Webster, Susan
Subject: Re: Draft OMB Questions

Has EPA issued any public guidance on evacuations, etc. in response to the blast? No. Local authorities determine scope and length of evacuations. The State of Texas is overseeing the response and has not requested DHS FEMA assistance. EPA is assisting TCEQ with air monitoring of the area. TCEQ and TDH is interpreting information in support of the state-lead response.

Is the local community responding under a contingency plan that EPA helped develop?

It is unknown to EPA if the small community of West, Texas, has an independent contingency plan. The City of Waco, McLennan County, and surrounding cities are a LEPC who have a contingency plan that EPA has provide training and assistance with historically.

From: McQuiddy, David
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2013 3:55:47 PM
To: Gray, David
Cc: Edlund, Carl; Phillips, Pam; Mason, Steve; Petersen, Chris; Smith, Monica; Broyles, Ragan; Ruhl, Christopher; Webster, Susan
Subject: FW: Draft OMB Questions

David,

We received the 2 questions below from OEM, who is crafting a response to OMB.

We propose the following answers - - - do you have any concerns?

- Has EPA issued any public guidance on evacuations, etc. in response to the blast? **No. A desk statement is being prepared in regard to air quality monitoring information for human health concerns for residents to reoccupy their homes.**
- Is the local community responding under a contingency plan that EPA helped develop? **Unknown if West, Texas, has an independent contingency plan. The City of Waco, McLennan County, and surrounding cities are a LEPC who have a contingency plan that EPA reviewed historically.**

Wes McQuiddy
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From: Ruhl, Christopher
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2013 3:22 PM
To: McQuiddy, David
Subject: Fw: Draft OMB Questions

From: Fitz-James, Schatzi
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2013 3:20:34 PM
To: Webster, Susan; Ruhl, Christopher; Petersen, Chris; Broyles, Ragan

Cc: Irizarry, Gilberto; Boynton, Lisa; Woodyard, Josh; Guarneiri, Lisa
Subject: FW: Draft OMB Questions

Region 6 REOC, Susan, Chris, et.al:

Per Tito's direction, 'm forwarding two questions from OMB for which we need answers from you. Please answer them as you're able to and certainly not before the latest fire drills in which you're immersed. Please reply to all and the HQ EOC. Thank you so much!
Schatzi

From: Woodyard, Josh
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2013 3:48 PM
To: Fitz-James, Schatzi; Boynton, Lisa; Irizarry, Gilberto
Subject: FW: Draft answers to OMB Questions

Hi folks – I have no idea who could answer these two questions but OMB is looking for some answers. Schatzi/Lisa, I'll swing by.

- Has EPA issued any public guidance on evacuations, etc. in response to the blast?
- Is the local community responding under a contingency plan that EPA helped develop?

Joshua Woodyard
Director, Business Operations Center
Office of Emergency Management
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
202-564-9588
571-334-6866 (cell)



From: Sebring, Meridith
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2013 3:42 PM
To: Guarneiri, Lisa; Fox, Rob
Cc: Woodyard, Josh; Atkinson, Ephraim
Subject: Draft answers to OMB Questions

There are still two questions that need to be addressed. Please edit as necessary. They still need to go through the front office, as well.

Thanks!

Meridith Sebring
Budget Formulation
OSWER ARMS
202-566-1909